

Serial No. 09/700,367

KARER et al.

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A P P E N D I X I:

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

Amend page 5 of the specification as set forth the following:

On page 5:

- Delete the supplemental paragraph(s) inserted in indicated line 14 in favor of the following supplemental paragraph(s):

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 schematically illustrates the embodiment of the gas-phase fluidized-bed reactor of the present invention without a gas distributor plate.

Figure 2 schematically illustrates the embodiment of the gas-phase fluidized-bed reaction of the present invention with a gas distributor plate in the region of transition.

Figure 3 schematically illustrates a closable flap.

Figures 4a to 4c schematically illustrate gas distributor plates in which wherein orifices occupy varying percentages of the surface area.

Figure 5 schematically illustrates the embodiment of the gas-phase fluidized-bed reaction of the present invention which is equipped with flow reshapers in the region of transition.

Detailed Description of the Drawings

Figures 1, 2 and 5 show the gas-phase fluidized-bed reactor. The reactor comprises a reactor chamber (1) which is in the form of a vertical tube. The reactor chamber has a region of transition (6a) in the lower section of the tube, followed by a reaction zone which is followed by a calming zone (2) in the upper section of the tube. A circulation gas line (3) is connected to the upper section and the lower section of the reactor chamber (1) to convey reaction gas from the calming zone (2) to the region of transition (6a). The circulation gas line (3) is equipped with a cyclone (3a) to separate off polymer and catalyst particles from the circulation gas, a circulation gas compressor (4) and a cool-

051024

- 8 -

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ing device (5). The circulation gas line comprises in the region of transition (6a) a closable flap (6) to prevent the penetration of polymer particles into the circulation gas line when the compressor is switched off. The embodiment of the reactor which is illustrated in Figure 1 has no gas distributor plate in the region of transition, the embodiment of the reactor which is illustrated in Figure 2 has a gas distributor plate (7) in the region of transition, and the embodiment illustrated in Figure 5 has flow reshapers (6b) in the region of transition.

Figure 3 shows a closable flap which is provided with uniformly distributed holes which makes it possible to fluidize the catalyst bed when the flap is closed.

Figures 4a to 4c are representations of gas distributor plates having orifices which occupy varying percentages of the surface area.

Figure 4a is a representation of a gas distributor plate wherein orifices, represented as white areas, occupy more than 20% of the surface area, ie. which obstructs less than 80% of the area.

Figure 4b is a representation of a gas distributor plate wherein orifices, represented as white areas, occupy at least 50% of the surface area, ie. which obstructs less than 50% of the area.

Figure 4c is a representation of a gas distributor plate wherein orifices, represented as white areas, occupy at least 90% of the surface area, ie. which obstructs less than 10% of the area.

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- 9 -